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STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT, WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON. D. C.

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COUNTRY

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Palestine

ORIGINAL RPT. 00-45

SUBJECT

Lifrorts Directed Toward Return of the Pufti

DATE OF INFO. 12-19 April 1946 DATE OF RPT. 26 April 1946

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ORIGIN

THEATRE

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CONFIRMATION

SUPPLEMENT

SOURCE SUB SOURCE EVALUATION

Probably British

NO. OF PAGES ATTACHMENTS

- A correspondent in close touch with Arab political circles reports that Sami al-Sulh recently received a letter from the Mufti stating that the French Government had no objection to his taking up residence in one of the countries of the "iddle Bast. The Fronch Government had added the proviso that the "ufti should make an application through official channels for permission to move to the Middle East, containing an undertaking that the Mufti would make himself responsible for the safeguerding of his life against any Jewish attempt on it. The Eufti said that he preferred to live in the Lebanon once foreign troops had been completely withdrawn, and con-
- 2. Source had a conversation with Khalid Farkh on 19 April 1946, just before the latter departed for Damasous with regard to the Mufti's return. As the evacuation of foreign troops from Syria had already been completed, Khalid Farith was going to Damascus to find out whether the Syrian Covernment would agree to the residence of the Mufti in Syria, at least until the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Lebenon.

cluded by requesting Sami Sulh to go to Damascus and Beirut to confer with the Syrian and Lobenese Governments, and make the necessary preparations.

- 'Issat Darwasah,ku'aya allowadi, and Akram Zuaytar have now also come to Damascus, where they are reported to have urged the Syrisa Covernment to facilitate the Mufti's return. They are also hoping to obtain from the Palestine authorities permission for themselves to return to Palestine.
- 4. Emile Churi, who is said to be offended because Dr. Issat Temmus was elected secretary of the new Arab Higher Committee in his stead, has gone to Cairo at the invitation of Munif al Hussyni. They are said to be consulting on the course to be pursued by the Palestine Arab Party should Jamal Russyni refuse to dissociate himself from Muse 'Alami, and Emile Churi is reported to be in touch with the Mufti on this matter.

Lebanese Prime Minister at time of reports

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